

February 13, 2013

Appropriation Committee Testimony
Legislative office Building, Room 2707
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

To whom it may concern;

I am writing this letter in regards to keeping the STRIVE program in the Department of Labor Budget. Strive has been a staple in the community for over twelve years and have served thousands of individuals state wide. I came to New Haven CT a year ago searching and struggling to find a job, after attending the Strive program beening taught the proper tools to go out and gain employment I graduated March 2012 cycle 117 attaining several job opportunities. I can honestly vouch firsthand that I would not be as successful as I am today without the assistance of Strive.

With an extremely lean budget, and a proven track record of success, it would be a grave mistake to cut a program that yields such high results. I understand that many tough decisions need to be made, and I do not envy your positions. With such a low cost, a high impact program such as Strive, I believe it would be terrible and unwise decision to cut their funding. I strongly encourage you to fight to keep Strive in the budget.

I appreciate your time and efforts. Please contact me if there are any questions or concerns you might have.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Barbara Fields

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